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STATINTL

## TOO BIG TO BE SENSITIVE

Apparently the State Department has become too big to be sensitive to danger alarms to the welfare of this country. The report made Tuesday by the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee is openly critical of the State Department and the conditions surrounding the death of Danish diplomat Povl Bang-Jensen.

Bang-Jensen was found dead in New York on November 26, 1959. New York police ruled him a suicide, but the circumstances surrounding his death suggests that it could have been murder. But the interest of the Senate subcommittee extended further than a matter of suicide or murder of a Danish diplomat. Bang-Jensen had something to tell the State Department that affected the welfare of the United States; but he was never able to tell his story. The fact that he knew the story and that he was seeking to tell it to U. S. officials could well be what changed a labeled suicide to murder. He knew too much and was willing to talk.

According to the Senate subcommittee Bang-Jensen wanted to tell the U. S. State Department that Communists had infiltrated the high command of the United Nations and the U. S. intelligence. From the facts that were uncovered, Bang-Jensen also knew of one or more Soviet nationals who wanted to defect to the United States.

He wanted to tell his story to Allen Dulles, head of the Central Intelligence Agency. In November, 1956, he started his bid to get to Dulles to tell the story. In June of 1957, he had

persisted for seven months; Dulles became aware of the efforts in May, 1957.

The CIA and the FBI were not criticized for not taking an active interest in the matter. Their job is to tackle problems given it by the State Department on matters of sensitive international effects. The task was never given them; the State Department merely overlooked the whole business, and went its way. Perhaps it was because of indecision or it could have been procrastination. But later Bang-Jensen was dead.

Had the Dane not been well known to the State Department, or had he been a crackpot, things would have been different. But the question now poses itself as to whether or not the State Department hasn't got so big that it's insensitive to tips that could well mean the difference in life and death for this nation? Certainly the Russian intelligence and their State Department counterpart would have been willing and anxious to listen—and investigate—a story of a comparable diplomat, had one sought to talk with the top Russian brass.

Just how long can we continue to ignore the small elements in international intrigue and continue to maintain our place among the top nations of the world?

It could well be that the State Department has become so big and so involved and so shot through with undesirables that it can no longer serve as the sensitive and vital leader in international relationships.